



A STRANGE TREE

Theobroma cacao is a most unusual tree. Wild cacao trees grow only in tropical rain forests. They don't get too big—usually just 20 to 25 feet high. This is because they need shade from taller trees around them. Cacao trees don't need the shade themselves, but the tiny flies that pollinate their flowers do. These midges really love the shade.

Cacao trees can live up to 100 years, producing flowers as well as fruit year-round for about 60 years. Strangest of all, the fruit grows from the tree's trunk, or from the sides of the largest branches.

Adapted from an article by Jerry Miller



The world's largest piece of fudge weighed 2,002 pounds and was 166 feet long and 9 inches wide. This enormous slab of chocolate-and-vanilla-swirl fudge took 86 hours to make at the Northwest Fudge Factory in Ontario, Canada. The fudge was cut up and sold, and the money was donated to buy a van for a local nursing home.

